

Utilities Coordinating Working Group Meeting

(Senate Concurrent Resolution 48)

Wednesday, August 21, 2109

DelDOT Administration Building, 800 Bay Road, Dover, DE

Farmington/Felton Conference Room

MINUTES

Approved 10/1/2019

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Osienski	Legislator nominated by the Speaker of the House	present
Sen. Nicole Poore	Legislator nominate by President Pro Tempore	absent
Jennifer Cohan	Sec. of the Dept of Transportation	present
Eric Cimo	Dept of Transportation Utilities Engineer	present
William Whitaker	Rep. from Delmarva Power Corporation	present
Troy Dickerson	Rep. from Delaware Electric Cooperative	present
Bonnie Metz	Rep. from Verizon Delaware Inc.	absent
Shane Breakie	Rep. from Chesapeake Utilities Corporation	present
Wayne Tyler	Rep. from Artesian Water Company	present
Tammy House	Rep. From Comcast Corporation	present
Jim Robinson	Rep. from Delaware Municipal Electric Corp.	present
Bryon Short	Rep. from DCA of DE	present
Alan Marteney	Rep. from ACEC-DE	present

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Baccino (Chesapeake Utilities), Chris Baker (DCA), Meaghan Barna (DelDOT), Annie Cordo (DAG for DelDOT), Shanté Hastings (DelDOT), Laszlo Keszler (DPL Gas), Robert Kitston (Delmarva Gas), La'Tonia Lighty (Verizon), Glenn Moore (Delmarva), Lisa Oberport (Delmarva) , Chris Redd (Chesapeake Utilities), Jim Robinson (DEMEC) , Christine Schultz, Aimee String (DelDOT), Caroline Trueman (FHWA), Verity Watson (Ruggerio Willson), Lincoln Willis (DLLG) and George Zang (Verizon).

- I. Welcome and Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 1:06 PM by Secretary Jennifer Cohan.
- II. Election of Chair:
 - a. Secretary Jennifer Cohan was nominated for chair and elected unanimously by members
- III. Overview of Senate Concurrent Resolution 48
 - a. The working group is charged with recommending measures which will shorten the total time to coordinate and implement utility relocations on transportation project on Delaware's highways.

- b. Per Senate Concurrent Resolution 48, recommendations are to be made by January 1, 2020.
- c. The working group must form at least two sub-committees. One committee will address design phase issues and one will address construction phase issue.

IV. DeIDOT/Utility Coordinating Challenges

- a. Shanté Hastings and Eric Como from DeIDOT presented the utility coordinating challenges from DeIDOT's perspective. PowerPoint attached.
- b. It was noted that while there are issues with the permitting process, that is not the focus of Utilities Coordinating Working Group. The Committee agreed that it would be helpful to form a committee to look at the permitting process at a later time.

V. Utility Company Perspective

- a. Shane Breakie explained he has concerns with any hard time penalties being placed on the companies as things do come up in the natural course of work.
- b. Several committee members shared the challenges of scheduling when projects are delayed and/or schedules are changed and the information is not communicated.
- c. Rep. Osienki noted that delays impact the financial picture; therefore, we need to minimize delays.
- d. Committee members explained that they were looking forward to working together on this process to make it more streamlined and formalized.
- e. La'Tonia Lighty informed the committee about the Engine System used in PA and Alden One. Alden One helps to hold people accountable and it can be used for underground issues as well. The committee is interested in learning more about these programs.
- f. Troy Dickerson mentioned that UPA is a great system but everyone would need to get on a web browser that supports. Some committee member do not like the UPA system as it is not very user friendly. It was agreed that the UPA could use an over-haul.

VI. Contractor's Perspective

- a. Contractors are comfortable being held accountable for the things that they have control over but noted that there are things that they do not have control over.
- b. We also need to keep Contractor resources in mind as we go through this process.

VII. Creation of Subgroups

- a. An e-mail invite will go out to all committee members.

- b. You do not have to be a member of the Utilities Coordination Working Group to participate in the subcommittees.
- c. Bryon Short was nominated and agreed to chair the Construction Subcommittee and Garth Jones was nominated to chair the Design Subcommittee.

VIII. Schedule for Future Meetings

- a. The committee agreed that future committee meeting should be scheduled for 1.5 hours as there is a lot to do in a short period of time.
- b. Subcommittees will meet every other week and the Utilities Coordinating Working group will meet monthly.